Reviewer’s report

Title: The Antiplaque/Anticariogenic Efficacy of Salvadora persica (Miswak) Mouthrinse in Comparison to that of Chlorhexidine: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

Version: 0 Date: 26 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Asmaa Faden

Reviewer’s report:

The research is will constructed in some aspects, Although I have some comments to improve the quality of it:

1- The title SHOULD represent the AIM, meaning that the Chlorhexidine word should be clearly inserted in the title since that it is the comparison tool.

2- Expand the search engines/database at least to include more references to increase the sample size which is too small to be evaluate. I suggest to include: Science Direct, Wiley Online Library.

3- Specify the time frame amongst the Inclusion Criteria which should be clearly stated in the methods e.g, (Gender, Age group, Occupation, medical status---->any medication that might impair the pharmaceutical action of the Miaswak/Chlorhexidine.

4- How did the researchers got over the Language restrictions??

5- re-select the keywords. adding e.g, Arak, mouthwash.

6- In the introduction section: I suggest more details about the plant itself, then its chemical/pharmaceutical properties,Chlorhexidine, then its chemical/pharmaceutical properties. Background about Both as mouth rinses uses.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests'.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.
I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal